

1 CLAIMS

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17. A spring having force levels varying by less than 30% over more than 40% of maximum deflection capacity during loading, comprising a pseudoelastic element that has a memory shape with at least one segment where at least one of flexural and torsional deformations concentrate.

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2. The spring according to claim 1, wherein regions of said pseudoelastic element outside segments where concentrated deformations occur are stiffened.

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3. The spring according to claim 1, wherein said pseudoelastic material is formed of elements selected from the group consisting essentially of Ni, Ag, Au, Cd, In, Ga, Si, Ge, Sn, Sb, Zn, Nb, Cu, Co, Fe, Mn, Pt, Al, Ti, Cr, Be, C and Tl, and combinations thereof.

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4. The spring according to claim 1, wherein said pseudoelastic element has been formed and then heat treated when restrained in order to assume said memory shape.

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5. The spring according to claim 1, wherein said pseudoelastic element has been heat treated in free condition after establishment of said memory shape.

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6. The spring according to claim 1, wherein said force levels are applied and removed at least once for improving stability under subsequent repeated load application.

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7. The spring according claim 1, wherein said pseudoelastic element has at least one of rectangular, circular and elliptical cross sections.

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8. A brush holder incorporating a spring having force levels varying by less than 30% over more than 40% of maximum deflection capacity during loading,

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cancel

1 comprising a pseudoelastic element that has a memory shape with at least one
2 segment where at least one of flexural and torsional deformations concentrate.

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3 A brush holder according to claim 14, wherein said force levels of said spring
4 vary by less than 30% over more than 40% of maximum deflection capacity
5 during unloading.

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6 A brush holder according to claim 14, wherein said pseudoelastic spring is at least
7 partly fixed against lateral deflections.
